

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Istook Statement on Iraq Resolution

Washington, DC -- **“I intend to support the resolution. Saddam Hussein has refused to honor the conditions that ended the Gulf War. He's patient about when, but he clearly intends to strike once more. It's inevitable that our military must confront him again, so it should be on our terms, not his. Hussein's only other option is total, immediate and permanent compliance with all U.N. resolutions. I don't believe he will ever do that.**

“The era of appeasement is over. Hussein and terrorists only respect strength, so we must demonstrate our strength and our resolve. In the short run, terrorists will push to retaliate, but in the long run they will only be deterred when they know that we will take the fight to them. Just the threat of American action might cause Hussein to be toppled.

“Hussein may join Osama bin Laden, hiding in a cave. But he cannot rule a country from there.

“This is the most sobering vote anyone in Congress can cast. It affects millions of lives, and a war effort will call many Americans from their homes and jobs as reserves are activated. I expect us to succeed in overthrowing Hussein, but I don't predict it will go as smoothly as the first Gulf War.”